PATENT Attorney Docket No. AR- 67

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Jeff S. EDER

Application No. 10/750,792 Group Art Unit: 3692

Filed: January 3, 2004 Examiner: Clement Graham

For: A value chain system

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendments Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO - 1449 and/or Substitute Form PTO - 1449 ("Form 1449") are submitted for consideration by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner place his or her initials in the appropriate area on the enclosed Form 1449, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form 1449 is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application. The right is expressly reserved to establish an invention date earlier than the above-identified filing date in order to remove any reference submitted herewith as prior an should it be deemed appropriate to do so.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved. The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

within any one of the following time periods: (a) within three months of the filing date of  $\square$ a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1,491 of an international application; (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or (d) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. after (a), (b), (c) or (d) above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and includes one of: the Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)" below) or the fee of \$180 set forth in 37 CFR 1, 17 (p) (see "Fees" below). after the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1. 113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and on or before payment of the issue fee, and includes the Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)" below), and the fee of \$180 as set forth in 3 7 CFR 1. 1 7(p) (see "Fees" below). after the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, and on or before payment of the issue fee, and within thirty days of receiving each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement, and includes the Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d)" below), and the fee of \$180 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.1 7(p) (see "Fees" below). NOTE,. This is for original applications except applications for a design patent filed on or after May 29, 2000, wherein a paper containing only an Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 is being filed. Copies of the References Copies of some of the references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are enclosed herewith. This patent application was filed after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of U.S. |X| patents and patent applications that are listed on the accompanying Form 1449 are not enclosed herewith (see Official Gazette Notice of August 5, 2003). Copies of other references identified on the accompanying Form 1449 have previously been submitted with the parent application. Attached to each reference not in the English language is a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3). An English-language equivalent/patent, or an English-language abstract, or an English-language version of the search report or action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted in lieu of a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).

10750792 - GAU: 3691

EFS-Web Receipt date: 08/03/2007

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|   | A copy of the foreign search report is enclosed herewith.  |
|---|--|
| X | Many of the references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 were previously identified in the parent application(s) of the present application, and copies of the references were furnished at that time. Accordingly, additional copies of the references are not submitted herewith, so as not to burden the file with duplicate copies of references. The Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the references in accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining |
|   | accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(d), the details of the parent application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120 in which copies of the   |

references were previously furnished are set out below:

| U.S. APPLI           | CATIONS             | Status (check one) |         |           |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------|
| U.S.<br>APPLICATIONS | U.S.<br>Filing Date | PATENTED           | PENDING | ABANDONED |
| 1. 09/940,450        | August 29, 2001     |                    | Х       |           |
| 2.                   |                     |                    |         |           |
| 3.                   |                     |                    |         |           |

## Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)

| Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.   |
|--|
| The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. |

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the

## Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

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Fees

No fee is owed by the assignee(s).

The IDS Fee of \$180 under 37 CFR I. I 7(p) is enclosed herewith.

Consistent with the U.S.P.T.O.'s recently announced emphasis on reducing the number of references with the same or similar teachings made of record during prosecution, the Assignee has elected not to include:

- U.S. Patent 6,456,982 as its relevant teachings were felt to have already been covered by Harhen (U.S. Patent 5.406,677) in combination with Rappaport, Ritchken and a number of other references; and
- 2. U.S. Patent 6,457,049 as its relevant teachings were felt to have been already covered by Bowman Amuah (U.S. Patent 6,332,163).

The Assignee respectfully requests consideration of the instant application with the information disclosure statement attached herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

/B.J. Bennett/

B.J. Bennett, President Asset Trust, Inc.

Date: August 3, 2007

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number 10/750,792 1/3/2004 Filing Date INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Jeff S. Eder STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 3692 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Clement Graham AR - 67 Attorney Docket Number Sheet

|                       |                          |  | U. S. PATEN                    | T DOCUMENTS  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (# known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,909,708 - B1                            | 06-21-2005                     | Krishnaswamy, et al.                               |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,249,768 - B1                            | 06-19-2001                     | Tulskie, William                                   |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,282,531 - B1                            | 08-28-2001                     | Haughton, John                                     |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,278,981 - B1                            | 08-21-2001                     | Dembo, Ron   |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,148,293 - B1                            | 11-14-2000                     | King, Douglas                                      |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,026,388 - B1                            | 02-15-2000                     | Liddy et al  |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,064,972 - B1                            | 5-16-2000                      | Jankowitz, Charles                                 |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,078,901 - B1                            | 6-20-2000                      | Ching, Hugh  |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 6,453,297 - B1                            | 9-17-2002                      | Burks, James                                       |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,704,055 - B1                            | 12-30-1997                     | George, Jonel                                      |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,774,873 - B1                            | 6-30-1998                      | Berent, Thomas                                     |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,644,727 - B1                            | 07-10-1997                     | Atkins, Charles Agee                               |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,704,045 - B1                            | 12-30-1997                     | King, Douglas                                      |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,742,775 - B1                            | 04-21-1998                     | King, Douglas                                      |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,668,951 - B1                            | 09-16-1997                     | Shintani, Peter                                    |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,819,237 - B1                            | 10-06-1998                     | Garman, Mark                                       |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,887,120 - B1                            | 3-23-1999                      | Wical, Kelly                                       |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5,761,442 - B1                            | 6-02-1998                      | Barr, Dean   |   |
|                       |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 5.638,492 - B1                            | 6-10-1997                      | Maeda et al  |   |

|                       |                          | FOREIG  | N PATENT DOCU               | IMENTS   |   |                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number <sup>4</sup> " Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>Or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                       |                          | WO 9838588  | 02-28-1997                  | Mayon & White                                      |   |                |
|                       |                          | EP 0 587 290 A2   | 03-16-1994                  | Powers et al                                       |   |                |
|                       |                          | GB 2 253 081 A  | 02-19-1992                  | Kaisha, Kabushi                                    |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                             |  |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                             |  |   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                             |  |   |                |

| Examiner<br>Signature | /Siegfried Chencinski/ (06/08/2008)  | Date<br>Considered | 06/08/2008         |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Olgilature            | Totoginod Ottottottista (00/00/2000) | Considered         | 0 07 0 07 ma 0 0 0 |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Code USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number 10/750,592 Filing Date 1/3/2004 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Jeff S. Eder STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 3692 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Clement Graham AR - 67 Attorney Docket Number Sheet

| Examiner  | Cite | Document Number                         | Publication Date | T DOCUMENTS  Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where  |
|-----------|------|---|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Initials* | No.1 | Bocament Namber                         | MM-DD-YYYY       | Applicant of Cited Document      | Relevant Passages or Relevant |
|           |      | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (# known) |                  | Figures Appear                   |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 6,347,306 - B1           | 02-12-2002       | Swart, Marius                    |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 6,092,056 - B1           | 7-18-2000        | Tull Jr., Robert                 |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 5,191,522 - B1           | 03-03-1993       | Bosco et al.                     |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 6.324,553 - B1           | 11-27-2001       | Agrawal et al.                   |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 6,330,564 - B1           | 12-11-2001       | Hellerstein et al.               |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 5,406,477 - B1           | 4-11-1995        | Harhen, John                     |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 5,471,611 - B1           | 11-28-1995       | McGregor, Douglas                |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 5,649,181 - B1           | 07-15-1997       | French, Clark                    |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 5,680,305 - B1           | 10-21-1997       | Agpar, Mahlon                    |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 6,546,381 - B1           | 4-08-2003        | Subramanian, Narayan             |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 5,706,495 - B1           | 1-06-1998        | Chadha, Atul                     |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 6,064,971 - B1           | 5-16-2000        | Hartnett, William                |                               |
|           |      | <sup>US-</sup> 6,327,590 - B1           | 12-4-2001        | Childlovski et al.               |                               |
|           |      | US-                                     |                  |                                  |                               |

|                       | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |                     |  |   |                |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------------|--|---|----------------|--|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  | Publication<br>Date | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages |                |  |  |  |
|                       |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> ) | MM-DD-YYYY          |  | Or Relevant Figures Appear                        | T <sup>6</sup> |  |  |  |
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|                       |                          |  |                     |  |   |                |  |  |  |

| Examiner<br>Signature | /Siegfried Chencinski/ (06/08/2008) | Date<br>Considered | 06/08/2008 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Senter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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|       | te for form 1449/PTO   |          | t or 1995, no persons ar | Complete if Known      |                |  |
|-------|------------------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--|
|       |                        |          |                          | Application Number     | 10/750,792     |  |
| INF   | ORMATION               | DIS      | CLOSURE                  | Filing Date            | 1/04/2004      |  |
| STA   | STATEMENT BY APPLICANT |          |                          | First Named Inventor   | Jeff S. Eder   |  |
|       | (Use as many shee      | ets as n | ecessary)                | Art Unit               | 3692           |  |
|       | (See as many ones      | ,        |                          | Examiner Name          | Clement Graham |  |
| Sheet |                        | of       |                          | Attorney Docket Number | AR - 67        |  |

|                       |                          | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS   |                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                       |                          | QUINN, JAMES BRIAN, Intelligent Enterprise, 1992, pages 3 - 458, The Free Press, U.S.A.   |                |
|                       |                          | BAGHAI, MEHRDAD, COLEY, STEPHEN & WHITE, DAVID, "The Alchemy of Growth", 1999, pages 2 - 244, Perseus Books, U.S.A.   |                |
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|                       |                          | THE APPRAISAL FOUNDATION, Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice 97, 1997. pages 55 - 61, The Appraisal Foundation, U.S.A.  |                |
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|                       |                          | EVEREST, GORDON, Database Management Systems,1986, pages 1 - 781, McGraw Hill, U.S.A.   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                |

| Examiner  | (2) (3) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4 | Date       | 06/08/2008 |
|-----------|--|------------|------------|
| Signature | /Siegfried Chencinski/ (06/08/2008)            | Considered | 00/00/2006 |

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.